

AT LAST, THE RIGHT CORSET.

GOOD DONE TO WOMANKIND BY THE STRAIGHT FRONT.

A Combination of Doctor, Gymnasium and Delicate Teacher in One—It May Be Made the Vehicle of Extravagance and Beauty Unknown in Former Days.

Proud man has decided that he is not made or unmade by his coat. Perhaps he is right, for who among us has not at times felt that the tailor has striven worthily but in vain?

So we accept the statement of the nobler sex that the coat does not make the man. It is an impressive thought. And what woman can contemplate it unmoved?

This high plane of life on which the power of clothes is questioned, nay, scoffed at, is not for mere woman to tread. She may look up and admire; but, for the present at least, man walks there alone, possibly in a linen duster.

For every profoundly intelligent woman, every woman of the higher education circle, knows that the corset makes the woman. She knows that she is well and vigorous, graceful and stylish, not according to the physical culture she practices or

her clothes smartly and, in spite of voluminous skirts and frilly waists, achieve an air of grace and distinction.

Although the various makes vary in detail, have the bones laid in at different angles and the lacing done in different ways, are a shade longer here or shorter there, having garter supporters drooping from different gorges, are of dozens of materials and colors, in the main the fashionable corsets are fundamentally alike.

They all end under the bust, leaving it absolutely free from pressure of any sort; the waist curve is well below the ribs, instead of just at the floating ribs, as in the corsets of only a few years ago, and the real support—support, not pressure—is about the abdomen. The vital organs are left unhampered, but that part of the body which through lack of athletic training is often weak is carefully and wisely supported.

If a woman accustomed to the new corset set upon an old-time corset with the deep waist curve in front she would at once find herself drooping to the curve and would have to let her shoulders droop forward, her chest sink, her hips drop to fit the corset in fashion only five years ago. For that corset was made to fit the body born of an hourglass mother and not having yet reclaimed its beauty.

materials and the most graceful design. Bust supporters, stocking supporters, sash pads for bust or hips, are of lace and ribbon and beading, and are rosetted or jeweled whenever it is possible.

The newest corset material is broché, a fine figured closely woven silk material that looks like a silk and linen imitation of brocade. It comes in cream white with tiny raised silk figures in cream or some pale tint or Dresden flower clusters in natural hue, or the pattern is a vine of flowers.

Say the corset is pale wild rose broché, the lining would be of the same shade exactly in twilled taffeta, the stitching in pink silk, the trimming about the top narrow real Valenciennes, with Valenciennes beading run with perfumed rose wash-ribbon. The clasps may be silver or gold, or steel wound with thick ribbon to prevent rusting.

And the various pretty corset furnishings would be in wild rose satin. The double side-garters have the elastic covered with shirred ribbon, and the clasps are of gold, with Sappho bows of satin ribbon.

They extend, one for the inside of each stocking, from the front of the corset, and one for the outside of the stockings from the corset side gorges, which are well down over the hips in the newest corsets. These

with the loops stitched up, and hiding a layer of cotton sprinkled with sachet. The bows match the corset in color, and are sash and bust pad combined.

For the very, very thin girl who cannot create an illusion of figure with a bit of sash ribbon, there are ruffled lawn fronts. A bit of lawn is cut to simulate the front of a corset cover, low-necked and fitted at the waist.

This is covered with a succession of narrow ruffles of lawn, edged with lace, stopping three inches up from the belt. The ruffled square ties on over the shoulders and about the waist with wash ribbon.

It fills out a shirt waist beautifully and is fresh and coolly hygienic. It may be white, or of tinted organdy to match the color of the corset, or of wash taffeta.

Nearly all the girdles for outdoor sports



this year are of the narrow design of satin ribbon, five bands of ribbon overlapping at the hips and widening out to form a pointed girder front and back. For bathing they are made of white wash ribbon and are laced, instead of being hooked with some metal found to rust. For riding and golfing and tennis they are made of narrow as would be useful and of wash ribbon that they may be easily kept fresh.

The empire corset waist is the prettiest of any. It is intended for wear with louncing gowns and is just a bit of silk, pompadour blue and pink, perhaps, cut much like the top of a corset cover, except that the dart runs out to the arm hole. The backs are mere triangles of the silk, which cross and end in long ribbons that tie in front just under the bust.

Besides the broché fabric, silk batiste is used and silk coutille and a silk linen, all beautiful and durable and capable of cleaning nicely. A single tint all through a corset scheme is very fashionable, or cream with blue or pink, or pink and blue in combination. And wistaria in the different shades is beautiful.

The ground would be shadow gray with wistaria petals scattered over in an uneven pattern. The bust supporter would be of lace dyed pale wistaria and the ribbon a deep violet tone. The garters would be covered with wistaria, with clasp of art nouveau silver in shadow gray. The sashets, which tie in the top curves of the corset, would be of leaf green silk, and the perfume an delicate spring odor.

The shields that are made nowadays to protect corset steels have the very straight cut. They are of bone and wood with velvet or plush the color of the corset. They are not over comfortable, but a marvellous protection for the expensive corset in summer time.

Some of the valuable corsets either have silver steels or have the steels bound with very thin rubber, but this has the objection of a distinct odor when moist. The shield is really the best plan.

The corset bag is a new idea. It is of silk, the color in harmony with the corset, and is just the right size to fit the corset perfectly when it is rolled. A sachet is in the lining, of course, and it is neatly tied with ribbon. Corset bags in wash silk, embroidered with a showy monogram, make pretty steamer gifts, and useful gifts.

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CUPID NOT BARRED OUT HERE.

NORMAL COLLEGE GIRLS MARRY AND MAKE GOOD WIVES.

Some Not Allowed to Finish Their Course Before They Wed—Education No Preventive of Matrimony, Dr. Hunter Says, Though It Produces Independence.

Last Wednesday night more than 400 Normal College graduates, all of them with grandiose draperies and ribbons, poured into Carnegie Hall and an hour or so later tripped out again, each with a diploma.

Some were pretty, others plainer. There were brunettes and blondes, graceful girls, awkward girls, girls self-conscious and girls self-possessed, honor students who had carried everything before them and students who had barely skinned through. In one respect they were alike. Each looked tremendously serious when her name was called and she got her she-papin.

One young woman explained when it was pointed out to her that young men graduates never look half so solemn as young women do:

"Well, young men don't have to worry about the hang of their skirts."

"A fine graduating class," assented Dr. Hunter, president of the Normal College for many years.

Then some one took the chance to put the question:

"What percentage of it do you think will marry?"

The doctor shook his head.

"Ah, that is a question I can't answer. I do not know what the percentage has been in any year. There is no way of keeping track of such facts after the class starts."

"I am pretty sure, though, that the percentage will not fall any lower than usual this year. Why, three of the girls were engaged at the beginning of their senior year."

"Perhaps you know, doctor," continued the questioner, "that in some quarters there is a firm belief that in the case of women a college education is a bar to matrimony, that the more highly educated a woman is the less she inclines to marry and the less popular she is likely to be with men in search of a wife."

Again the doctor shook his head.

"Now, my experience," said he, "doesn't prove any such thing. I have come to the conclusion that a college education does not interfere in the least with matrimony."

"I admit that it does, perhaps, make a woman more independent, more particular in her choice of a mate. I am told that many of the graduates from this college have expressed a wish to teach for a while and see something of the world before getting married."

"On the other hand, ever since I have been here undergraduates, girls in the sophomore class, even, have come to me and they were going to leave. When I asked why they answered with a blush:

"I am going to be married."

"At the beginning of every term I hear of one and another senior who is engaged to be married. Cupid comes around regularly."

"The percentage of teachers who marry is large, and I have noticed that it is the brightest, the most efficient, who marry soonest—not the duller, of them. The very qualifications which make teachers successful and popular in their classes are those which make them attractive to the other sex."

"Four of the most accomplished and best looking of the Normal College teachers have committed matrimony in a comparatively short space of time. Indeed, so valuable were those teachers to the college that I almost begrudged them to their husbands, and yet I am in favor of women marrying."

In these days the educated woman has a much better chance of marrying than the uneducated, I think. The time when the pretty, mild, clinging, ignorant little creature was preferred by the average man has gone by."

"Men are no longer afraid of the educated woman—for the reason, perhaps, that there are fewer illiterate men now than there were formerly, owing to the multiplication of educational institutions which are open at night as well as during the day."

I have observed, too, that an uneducated man is deficient in social graces, and the new woman, who has risen in the world and become rich, generally looks around for the best educated woman she can find, and she can be proud of. At any rate, he is pretty sure not to marry a woman as deficient as himself in book knowledge."

When it comes to a question of marriage, I think the only difference between the educated and the uneducated woman is that the former is more apt to accept every man or any man for a husband."

SHOES FOR MANY OCCASIONS.

The Unsuccessful Walking Pump and the Successful Champagne Pump.

The walking pump is not a success. The shoe men say so openly. Every woman in New York who has invested in a pair of pumps for out of door wear has made great complaint. Why? Because after about three wearings this style of footgear stretches at the sides and refuses to stay on. The friction raises blisters on the heels that would make a tennis expert ashamed of his limited supply at the beginning of the season.

The only persons who can wear the pump with the slightest degree of comfort are those with very thick heels; and their feet, naturally, look badly in a low cut slipper. It is too bad that the pump refuses to cling to the high instep and thin heel, for there never has been a shoe that made the foot look so trim and smart. The shoe makers are giving their customers a black silk pad with every pair of pumps. When the shoes begin to stretch this pad is placed under the instep and the heel, making them fit snugly over it, which helps to keep the shoe on.

There is absolutely no sale for the regulation low-cut shoe, except among very conservative dressers. The really smart Oxford have three very large eyelets on either side and are reefed together with a crowd, very heavy grosgrain ribbon. They are cut lower than the low shoe of other seasons and make the foot look smaller. Russian calf is the most favored material for rough and ready wear, and tan, black and white the most modish colors.

Champagne colored shoes have not had a kind reception. They have about them a look of the faded and the ribbon which the truly refined do not like. A very stylish low shoe for dress is built with a moderately long extension sole and a heel of soft dullek. Its novelty is in the fastening—three very large buttons.

STITCH YOUR OWN VEILS.

How the Clever Needlewoman Can Vie With the Rich in a New Pad.

Every day sees something new in chiffon veils. The plain ones, shaded from a pale champagne color to a golden brown, or from the palest pink to the fashionable American Beauty rose color are both pleasing to the eye and becoming. These veils, to be really up-to-date, must not be plain hemmed. They must be hem-stitched by the wealthy pay from \$12 to \$18 for a veil finished in this way, but the woman who is clever with her hands buys her veils at the yard and makes them up herself. It is to be avoided as one would the plague by the personage who prides herself on her own work.

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Write to-day or come and see

John H. Woodbury D. I.
TWENTY-TWO WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET, NEW YORK.

BARGAINS FOR STAY-AT-HOMES.

Not From the Store Counters, but in Skilled Labor on Frocks and Hats.

The stay-at-home girl feels nowadays that she is having her innings. She is getting the most exquisite hats and blouses and fluffy summer gowns for a mere song. Where and how? At the bargain counters? No, indeed! She is having her hats made by the best milliners in town—the head trimmers, in many instances, from the exclusive Fifth Avenue shops—and her dresses built by women from establishments so expensive that she never dreamed of them in her simple sartorial philosophy.

And how does she work this? asks the uninitiated. In this way: Milliners and dressmakers discharge, or to put it in trade phraseology, "lay off," nearly all of their workers early in June and do not reemploy them until the end of August and in many cases until September. These people are not willing to remain idle all that time, and are quick to turn an honest penny.

"Do you see this hat?" said a young man who is always perfectly dressed. "It cost me \$10 and I would have paid every cent of it for it on the avenue. The head trimmer from—well, I guess I won't say where, as that might be killing the fowls that lays the golden eggs—made this hat. She buys the straw braids at the finest places in town, fits her hair on the back for four times so as to get perfect contour, and lets you buy your own flowers or other trimmings. My hats look as if they cost \$300 at least. There are six of them, and they set me back exactly \$17.50. Smart? I should say so. You should see the members of the Four Hundred left in town straining and craning their necks to look at them."

This same matron has a number of stunning gowns costing from \$15 to \$30, and looking like very expensive imported frocks. She decides that there is some compensation in staying in town for the summer after all.

STOCKING LORE.

No More Openwork—A Trick Which Causes Feet Women Slim Ankles.

Openwork stockings have had their day. They are dismal Swamp, dirt cheap this season. Shopkeepers are almost ready to give them away. There was never anything very chic about a stocking that did not even half conceal a woman's ankles. And nothing makes the ankle look so trim and fascinating as a fine, plain black silk stocking, such as can be drawn through a wedding ring. A little hand embroidery is permissible, but nothing else in the way of embellishment.

Fay Templeton has hit on a scheme for making her ankle look as trim as a fairy's, and all the fat women might as well adopt the patent.

"Gee whizz!" says the man at the roof garden. "How can a sweet little ankle hold up so much flesh?"

But the woman who sees everything solves the problem in an instant. The actress has an extra piece of stocking on her back, so that only the front of her ankle is really visible. That looks slim and trim enough to satisfy the most exacting connoisseur in legology.

There is a new stocking called the violet jale which is exceedingly pretty and promising to be very popular. In texture it is exactly like a fine voile dress material and is decidedly diaphanous without really having any openwork about it. One advantage is its low price.

There is no reason why a woman with even a very limited allowance for dress need deny herself silk hosiery. By making a dozen pairs she can get them in any wholesale house at wholesale prices, and a dozen pairs can be made to last almost a year with scrupulous care.

BABY BRUSHES FOR GROWN UPS.

The Only Sort to Keep the Teeth Thoroughly Clean, Say the Dentists.

Many dentists recommend a child's tooth brush for grown-ups. It is impossible to keep the teeth thoroughly clean with a brush of large size, they say, and folks who have adopted the miniature brushes say that the small brush is so soft it does not penetrate every crack and corner of the teeth and to give the user a sense of cleanliness never before experienced.

Blue Prevailing Color in Women's Dresses From the Milwaukee Sentinel.

"The prevailing color in women's dresses this year will be blue," said James V. Partidge, representing a large dressmaking establishment in Chicago. "Parisian" blue will be the prevailing shade, but other shades of blue will be worn, and generally in slighter shades than of a warm reddish shade. Nearly every woman now wears a bit of blue somewhere about her costume, and generally in slight shades. I have been able to discover, blue is the popular color with the women here. Several interested persons in this city have made an investigation to see whether or not the contention that blue is the most popular color with women was true, and this was what they found by watching those walking in State street, between Madison and Washington streets. Out of 103 women who passed by were dressed in blue; 140 out of 208 were decorated with that color, and between Madison and Monroe streets out of 103 dressed in the pretty color. If this isn't conclusive proof, I don't know what is."

Shocking Behavior for a Baby.

From the Detroit Free Press.

"What's the matter with you? Properly this evening? I never saw her look so discomfited."

"Feels scandalized. She left her baby with the baby-sitter, and when she came back the youngster was sitting in the front yard playing with a deck of cards and a quart of poker chips."

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the medicine she takes or the ethical theories she holds, but in proportion as she is correctly fitted with the right sort of corset.

This has not always been true. There were days when corsets were iron bars, when women were crushed literally by the shape to conform to prevailing masculine standards of beauty. It is more than likely that Queen Bess's vicious temper was the result of wearing a prison cell for a corset.

And not more than two generations ago

With the modern corset you have to stand erect or the straight front effect will prod you into remembering its rights. With the lungs unrestricted you will breathe right, and with full, long breaths you will pull up your chest and straighten your shoulders. With the abdomen held in, the hips are forced back into proper place, and that means a straight spine.

Breathing right not only expands the chest, but develops the bust; and standing and sitting with the chest high and the spine straight means twice the capacity for work or play, for there is no unnatural strain on the nerves and muscles. So having a correct corset is practically having a small and powerful combination of doctor, gymnasium and Delicate teacher in one, and that always with you.

Our Puritan ancestors, with their twisted emotions, created the theory that to be sensible was to be sombre, and that wisdom could not be expressed through the medium

double garters are essential in modern smart dressing. For a single wrinkle about the ankle, the meek suggestion that a stocking is not an integral part of the human anatomy, is an unforgivable lapse, and one cannot afford to have one's social prestige held up by a single garter.

The very long hip cut is also requisite

of grace and beauty. And so, when we speak of a corset being practical and sensible and useful, we are of Puritan ancestors are likely to picture ugly shapes of blue jean or brown holland, whereas in reality the corsets of to-day are of beautiful materials in exquisite colors and color combinations.

The distinctively French color schemes are most often expressed, the Pompadour and Dresden effects, silver blue and wild-rose pink and pale leaf green and old-Perseus blue. The Dresden effect is imitated, and the loveliest brocades copied in miniature designs. And ribbons fitted over models are used for all sorts of corsets, for the most conspicuous design as well as the daintiest riding girdle.

And not only are the corsets themselves delicately beautiful, but every adjunct of the corset is of the loveliest colors, the richest

a heroine could not be popular unless the author repeatedly brought to public notice the fact that her waist was slender, very slender. This is being done very largely with the present generation of little girls, but the present generation of grown-up women require corsets for comfort.

And, fortunately, at last a sensible corset is in vogue, the end of a long process of evolution beginning with the corset prison of medieval times.

If a woman lives up to her corset to-day she will stand right, breathe right, carry

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